METHODISTS BEGIN LABORS TOMORROW

350 Delegates Expected to Attend the 131st Annual Conference.

MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN MOUNT VERNON PLACE

President Wilson to Attend Exercises Thursday Night-Bishop Candler of Atlanta to Preside.

The 131st session of the Baltimore annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, to convene tosorrow morning at the Mount Vernor Place Church, 9th and K streets north-west, is to be opened informally tonight with a sermon by Rev. J. Howard Wells of the Baltimore Trinity M. E. Church South, at one time pastor the Mount Vernon Place Church. Bishop W. A. Candler of Atlanta was among the first arrivals of the hundreds of delegates who are expected to arrive today and tonight to attend the week's conference. He reached washington this morning. Other prominent churchmen who are expected to be in attendance at the conference are Bishop A. W. Wilson of Baltimore and Bishop Collins Denny of

Delegates to the number of 350 are expected to come to Washington to take part in the business sessions of the conference and the anniversary

the conference and the anniversary meetings.

Fresident Wilson, it is announced, will attend the meeting Thursday night, when Dr. John W. Moore of Nashville will speak on different phases of missionary work. It is understood that the Fresident will not make an address, but will come merely in the capacity of an auditor.

Delegates From Eight Districts. The delegates are from eight church

listricts in Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland, and while in Washington will be busy with the work of the conference, which will include a husiness meeting in the morning, preaching each afternoon and a general session each night. The business meetings to be held each morning will comprise the anniversary meetings of the Epworth League board, the board of missions, the board of church extensions and the Sunday school board.

day school board.

Tomorrow night the Epworth League board has charge of the program. Rev. Dr. F. S. Parker of Nashville, general secretary, is to deliver the sermon. Thursday night Dr. Moore will speak, with President Wilson in the audience, and Friday night the address will be by Dr. W. F. McMurry of Louisville, Ky. Dr. McMurry will speak on church extension work. He is one of the leaders in this work, it is declared.

The Sunday school board will hold its anniversary Sunday night.

Local Committee in Charge.

Bishop Candler will probably anounce the list of appointments for the listricts in the Baltimore conference Monday night. The bishop is to preside at all the business sessions of the

conference.

The local general committee in charge of the conference includes Rev. Harry L. Hout, chairman; Rev. Wilmer P. Johnston, secretary; J. Everett Baird, treasurer, and the following; Rev. E. K. Hardin, J. P. Coon, Mount Vernon Church; Rev. J. J. Ringer, John Brayshaw, jr., Marvin Church; Rev. Wilmer P. Johnston, A. L. Dietrich, St. Paul's Church; Rev. R. L. Fultz, W. F. Hummer, Epworth Church; Rev. Harry L. Hout, Creed M. Fulton, Calvary Church; Rev. E. L. Woolf, Charles W. Ray, Emory Church, and Rev. F. J. Prettyman and W. A. Bennett, Mount Pleasant Church.

DENIES ANY MYSTERY IN RUSSELL'S ARREST

British Vice Consul Says Obtaining Money Under False Pretense Is Only Charge.

Reports of an international mystery being hebind the arrest and detention here of W. St. John Russell, a young Englishman charged with false pre tenses in England, were denied today by Hugh Rowland, British vice consul here. Mr. Rowland said that so far as he knows there is nothing in the charge against Russell except that he is alleged "to have obtained a small sum of money by false pretense." Russell was arrested Saturday at a

local hotel on complaint of Vice Consul Rowland. He was to have been given a hearing yesterday afternoon before United States Commissioner An-son S. Taylor, but Assistant United States Attorney Arth asked that it be postponed, as the extradition papers and the information upon which the charge against Russell is said to have been issued had not arrived from Eng-

heen issued had not arrived from England.

The postponement was protested against by Attorney J. S. Easby-Smith, who argued to the commissioner that the warrant for the arrest of the defendant showed that the British consul in New York had had three weeks in which to secure the papers from his home country. The attorney, however, finally said he would consent to a postponement of forty-eight hours, in which time Vice Consul Rowland could secure information when the papers would arrive.

Hearing in the case was thereupon set for 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon by Commissioner Taylor. Vice Consul Rowland said today he had not as yet received any information regarding the papers.

Wills Filed for Probate.

her sons, John J., Harry R., Arthur F. and Mattehew C. Carroll, jr., and to her and Mattehew C. Carroll, jr., and to her granddaughters, Helen B. and Mary D. Carroll. A daughter, Mary Carroll, is given premises 1736 Kilbourne street, and is to share equally with her brother. Louis D. Carroll, the houses, 615 Lamont street and 3495 Holmead avenue northwest. The remaining estate is devised to the daughter, Harry Carroll is named as executor.

By the terms of the will of William Stanford, dated March 11, 1915, his entire estate is devised to Catherine Murphy of Fort Myer, Va. Robert D. Howell is to act as executor.

Wilson Ignores Party Squabbles. President Wilson has no intention of interfering in factional differences beinterfering in factional differences be "The National Defense" at a meeting tween democrats in New York and of the society tomorrow evening at Pennsylvania. He told callers today that he thought the people of each state were able to look after their own affairs.

Rauscher's. Selden M. Ely, chairman of the committee appointed to locate the graves of revolutionary soldiers in the District of Columbia, is to make a report at this time.

Accepts Simmons' Estimates.

President Wilson expressed confidence today that the estimates by dence today that the estimates by Chairman Simmons of the Senate finance committee placing the Treasury deficit for the year at approximately \$26,000,000 were more nearly correct by the interstate commerce commissions. an areater estimates.

SEIZURE OF THE DACIA DECLARED TO BE VALID

Ship Now Goes to French Prize Court.

PARIS, March 23, via London, 4:05 Race Which Enters Into the Life of p.m.-A commission of inquiry into the capture by a French cruiser of the American steamship Dacia while on a voyage from the United States to Rotterdam with a cargo of cotton on board as declared the seizure to be valid.

The case now goes before the French prize court, which is allowed two onths to hand down its decision.

The Dacia belonged formerly to the Hamburg-American line. She changed her registry and became an American ship after the outbreak of hostilities. Laden with cotton and destined to Germany, she was picked up by a French cruiser and taken into Brest. Two questions have arisen in connection with the Dacia case—one is the validity of the transfer of her registry, and the other the disposition of her cargo.

'PEANUT JIMMIE" DEAD;

War Veteran and Familiar Figure in City Was Eighty-Two Years Old.

James Connolly, eighty-two years old, veteran of the civil war, was found dead in his room on the second floor of a building in rear of 320 12th street northwest shortly before noon today. His room was filled with gas that had escaped from an open fixture that supplied fuel for a small stove, and the condition of his body indicated that he gas had killed him.

Connolly was a familiar figure about this city for many years. He sold candy, peanuts and popcorn from a basket and was known to many persons in the business section of the city as "Peanut

Known as a "Scrapper."

Many years ago he sold peanuts and andy in Kernan's Theater, and during the past several summers he supplied tion. many excursionists on their way to

time. He frequently remarked that he expected to live to pass the century mark, but during recent months his health failed him and he doubted if he would live to celebrate the hundredth

anniversary of his birth.

Sunday the candy and peanut seller complained that he was too sick to go to the pension office and get his pension of \$72 for three months. It is said that he went to the office yesterday, however, and got his pension. The police found nearly \$75 in his room.

There was nothing found in the room to suggest that the pensioner committed suicide. He had evidently been overcome while in bed and had made an unsuccessful attempt to reach the anniversary of his birth.

in unsuccessful attempt to reach ACTIVE WORK BEGINS ON QUARTERS FOR DOG SHOW

Entries to Close Monday for Kennel Club Exhibit, April 12,13, for Neighborhood House Benefit.

Active work for preparing the building on Connecticut avenue that is to house the dog show to be given April 12 and 13, by the Washington Kennel Club, for the benefit of Neighborhood House, began this morning. All inter for construction is being removed, and first-class "doggy" quarters are being built to take care of the hundreds of prospective applicants for berths at Washington's coming "dog fest." The Secretary of War and Mrs. Gar-rison and the Postmaster General and

Mrs. Burleson are among those who have signified their intention to be patrons and patronesses of the show. Other patrons and patronesses in-clude Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson, Mr and Mrs. William C. Eustis. Mr. and Mrs. Gist Blair, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. and Mrs. Gist Blair, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Hamlin. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson Fahnestock, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hollister Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. William Littaur, Mr. and Mrs. William P. Eno, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Addison and Mrs. Angus McSween.

The entries in all classes close Monday, it is appropried

Diet School Open to Visitors.

Mrs. J. L. Wilmeth, president of the Monroe Home and School Association, today extended a general invitation to all officers of mothers' clubs, parentteacher associations and similar organizations to visit the diet school re-The will of Mary B. Carroll, dated July 21, 1913, has been filed for probate. She leaves cash bequests to her o'clock at the Wilson Normal School, husband, Matthew C. Carroll, and to

> Memorial Services Planned. Memorial services for the late Lucius

years at Freedmen's Hospital, are to be held at Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, April 8, under the auspices of the United Citizens' Alliance and the Na-tional Baptist Evangelistic Alliance. Rev. Simon P. W. Drew is making arrange-ments for the affair and several persons have been invited to speak.

Chester to Address S. A. R. Rear Admiral C. M. Chester, the newy elected president of the Sons of the American Revolution, is to speak on

Suspends Live Stock Rates.

ONE PEOPLE IN EUROPE NOT ENGAGED IN WAR

Decision of Commission on American | Peaceful in Action, in Intent, and Known World Over as Gypsies.

Every Nation Under

"Europe has still today one utterly peaceful people, a people peaceful in ac-tion, in intent and of peaceful contem-National Geographic Society.

history the gypsies. under the sun, yet a part of no single by the new system of training one; mingling themselves within the high-est civilizations, yet unlettered; pilgrims ball in smaller towns is the reason for upon an eternal wander-path, yet for-ever true to the ties of racial blood and pense coupled with the chilly reception

they have been identified with the lost tribes of Israel, the 'mixed multitude' that followed Moses out of Egypt, the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Saracens and the Egyptians. Some have held them to be the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children of the Wandering Jew and inheritors of the restless curse of their father.

"The gypsies themselves have never professed to know who they were or where they came from, but they have shown great readiness to accept the conclusions on this subject of the people among whom they lived. It was not until the growth of comparative philology and the chance investigation of the gypsies' tongue in the beginning of the last century that scientists concluded the gypsies to be a wandering low-caste tribe from northern India. Their language nearly resembles Sanskrit, the foundation tongue of all our western languages which has held itself purest, in Indian sources.

Their Language Preserved.

Their Language Preserved. "This language they have wonderfully preserved in the face of overmastering cultures and eternal wandering. This has not been accomplished by a literature or by a close corpora-The gypsies have no literature, and their language is an unwritten one, Chesapeake Beach.

Connolly came here some time after the close of the war. It is stated that he was wounded in the defense of his country, and persons who were well acquainted with him said he possessed a belligerent spirit after leaving Unclesam's service.

In police circles Connolly made a record as a "scrapper," it is stated, and a number of policemen recall personal combats in which they participated with him. He was troublesome only when under the influence of liquor, the police say. He was especially fond of children, and never refused little ones a piece of candy or a few peanuts, even, if they were without funds.

Ambitious for Long Life.

"Peanut Jimmie," his friends say, had been on the "water wagon" for a long time. He frequently remarked that he they themselves are scattered in small bands over the whole face of the earth—scattered even more widely than when Jews. The gypsy calls himself trom, meaning man, "the man' of all a men. His wife is "romni, his folk-life is 'formipen,' and his language is 'romani.' Every one not of his race comes in under the generic term of 'gentile.'

"Gypsy-folk present the strangest problems known to philology and ethic of complex civilizations, they have retained their physical characteristics, their tribal rules and customs reminiscent of their far-distant, extra-European past, their highly inflected language, and their thousand years of fever for roving. They are absolutely singular and without close parallel among the peoples of earth.

"To rive room for wandering is it." while they themselves are scattered in

mong the peoples of earth. " To give room for wandering is it.
That the world was made so wide."

"Gypsy religion and gypsy aspiration nay be summed up in two lines from he works of the German poet, Goethe:

Enter Europe in Twelfth Century. This folk entered Europe by way of Constantinople in the twelfth century, and overflowed into the northern Balkans, Hungary, central and western Europe, England, and thence to North and South America. The English called them Egyptians, after their supposed origin, whence the name 'gypsy.' They reached Germany in about 1417 and them? The minors? The minors?

reached Germany in about 1417 and England about 1500. At first they were treated kindly by the western nations, but their strangeness, their unconventionality, their light-fingered ways, their proneness for fortune-telling, necromancy, black magic, and their unwillingness for work in all forms soon called down upon them bitter persecution in Germany, England, France and the Netherlands.

Who can afford to pay any money for them? The minors? They are strapped. They are strapped. 300 more than they need. The National League will have to let out something like 150 men. The American League will have to let out something about the same number. It is no wildered dream on my part. I know the conditions and I have looked at it from every angle.

Majors Must Retrench

the Netherlands.

In the Balkans, Russia, Hungary and Poland they were well treated, and they are found in these countries in great numbers today. It is estimated that Europe has more than 900,000 gypsies."

Majors Must Retrench.

"There will also have to be retrenchments in the major league field. The abolishment of spring training trips I think will be in order next year. These

BAN JOHNSON SAYS BASE BALL IS IN NEED OF GREAT REFORM

Suggests Doing Away With Training Camps, Closing Minor League Parks and Retrenchments Along All Lines.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 23.—Base ball is in for an overhauling such as it has never before experienced if the suggestions of B. B. Johnson, president of the American League, are carried out. According to the head of the junior circuit, there is need of reform along both artistic and financial lines. Incircuit, there is need of reform along both artistic and financial lines. In-cluded in the scheme for a "new deal" slation." says a bulletin just issued by the are the closing of the gates for the National Geographic Society. "Accord-ing to press dispatches, this race is the and the abolition of spring training only such race, but, then, it is one of trips. The padlocks would be distribmost peculiar peoples in the world's uted among five or six minor leagues, while the American and Nationa "Entering into the life of all nations leagues would be principally affected

The aparent lack of interest in base pense coupled with the chilly receptio

ever true to the ties of racial blood and to customs whose origin and significance have been fully forgotten, the gypsies are the most mysterious of all the strange elements of folkdom.

Origin Not Definitely Known.

"Whence they came has never been settled to a certainty. All manner of fables have been spun to explain their origin. Since they first appeared upon the stage of Europe in the middle ages they have been identified with the lost tribes of Israel, the 'mixed multitude' that followed Moses out of Egypt, the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Saraeens and the Egyptians. Some have heid them to be the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to be the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to be the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to the content of the content to the content to the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to the content to the content to the content to the content to the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content to the content to the content to the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content to the content to the content to the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain, and others have decided that they were the children to content the children of Cain. The gyptical cannot be the children of Cain and the children of Cain and the child

Worst Is Yet to Come.

The supreme court of base ball has been unable to offer much encouragement, and it was pointed out through Mr. Johnson that the worst is yet to come. Hundreds of players are likely whether certain clubs close their gates season opens outdoors, on dirt courts

President Johnson pointed out that the National League will have to get rid of probably 150 players, while the American League will discard almost as many. The larger minor leagues will be able to accomplish on grass, as many. The larger minor leagues will be able to accomplish on grass, and there is one of the larger minor leagues will be able to accomplish on grass, as many. The larger minor leagues in Norway and she has had little or no experience on turf. The bound of the ball is noticeably different from dirt than from grass, and still more so from boards. But every evidence that the little Norwegian showed last week indicated that she ought not to have any great difficulty in getting the range for grass court play before the championship date comes around in June, and if she does take to it kindly she will have to be reckoned with as one of the dangerous contenders.

Has Refreshing Enthusiasm.

Miss Bjurstedt shows an enthusiasm that it would be a good thing for the game were the gates of five or six minor leagues closed during for contenders. President Johnson pointed out that anyway, if not on grass. game were the gates of five or six minor leagues closed during the com-ing season. In fact. I cannot see how the smaller club owners can afford to keep their parks open. Few made any money last year and it does not look as if they are going to this.

Commission Is Bombarded. "The national commission has been combarded of late with requests for back salaries. These have all come from minor league players, who were unable to collect from different clubs last fall. The commission naturally tries to satisfy the players to the best of its ability, but if the club owing the money is bankrupt our hands are

tied. fronting club owners and players. If the owners could not pay their men

Mrs. Elizabeth Moale Pleasants, widow of Richard Hall Pleasants, died at her home in Baltimore after an illness of less than twenty-four hours, of pneumonia. She was eighty-six years old.

She was eighty-six years old.

GAME HELPED BY FEAT OF NORWEGIAN WOMAN The forthcoming return to Japan of Mineichiro Adachi, the Japanese minister to Mexico, the Japanese foreign office explains, is due to the chaotic conditions and the absence of a responsible government in Mexico. The secretary of the legation will remain in Mexico.

Winning of American Indoor Tennis

take part in the most important tour-naments over here, including the national championship at Philadelphia in June. New blood is badly needed among the woman players and her entry into the field will be welcome. The Christiania woman showed several points of distinct superiority in the finals over to be out of jobs the coming season, with no relief in sight, regardless of to repeat her victory when the spring to repeat her victory when the spring

the game as a young girl of nineteen, and she seems to be in excellent physical condition. Against Miss Wagner, while she lacked perhaps her speed in while she lacked perhaps her speed in the ground strokes, she was steadier at all times, kept the ball low down and deep, and she never seemed to lack confidence, although it was her first experience in a strange land. The Norwegian does not lean much toward the volleying game, but she did not fail to take advantage of such openings at the net as were presented, and seldom failed to kill when she had the chance. Above everything else she made wonderfully few errors, and after all that is the real meat of the match playing game.

is the real meat of the match playing game.

It must be kept in mind that Miss Wagner is one of the most experienced woman players we have in the east, and she was a dangerous contender for the last national championship. She was officially rated as the third player in America last season, with only two western women above her. With Miss Wagner as the best player in the east, and Miss Mary Browne, the champion away off in California, Miss Bjurstedt may find the eastern tournaments an easy field for her.

Over here we have long known of the skill of the English woman players, which averages far above thet of their American sisters, and two or three of the continental women, notably Mile. Masson of Paris, who is now at the front with the French Hed Cross war nurses, were known to have shown high skill. However, it came as a distinct surprise that any of the Scandinavian players had any such ability as shown by Miss Bjurstedt. Among the Swedish and Norwegian man players, none has developed who were considered dangerous, and every time they venture out of their own country they have been beaten almost invariably. In the Stockholm tournaments that were open to outsiders English players have generally swept the boards.

ACCUSED OF NON-SUPPORT. Three Alleged Recreant Husbands

Indicted by Grand Jury.

smault to kill preferred against Jessie

Others indicted and the charges against

hem are: John Butler, assault with a

dangerous weapon; Belle Parker, grand larceny; William Delaney and Gus West, housebreaking: Aurie Mackey, assault with a dangerous weapon; Elchard Gross, robbery; Ella Smallwood, assault with a dangerous weapon; Earl Davis and Howard Shorter, housebreaking and larceny.

Women to Discuss Rule 45.

board of education at their next meet-

ing. This rule automatically releases

from the service of the public schools woman teachers who marry. It is pos-sible that a mass meeting may be

Several women's organizations are

Howson and Clarence H. Davis.

Oil Painting for Public Library. A magnificent oil painting of the Grand Canyon of Colorado by Lucien Three alleged recreant husbands were ndicted today by the grand jury for non-

upport of wives and children. The acused are Morgan Stewart, Thomas H. The grand jurors ignored a charge

W. Powell has just been hung in the Wireless reports received from the central building of the Public Library. Newfoundland sealing fleets indicate that Several years ago Mrs. John B. Hender- the outlook for the season is unfavorable son, who has a large collection of paintings by Lucien W. Powell, loaned one of them—a fine large seascape—to the Public Library. It hangs above the this date. The vessels of the western west landing of the main staircase. The feet so far have made no catch.

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Oak

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